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ENZYME CATALYZED THERAPEUTIC AGENTS

Publication number: JP2002500880 (T)

Publication date: 2002-01-15

Inventor(s):

Applicant(s):

Classification:

- international: A61K31/664; A61K31/7042; A61K31/7052; A61K31/7056; A61K31/7064; A61K31/7072; A61K45/00; A61K47/48; A61P35/00; A61P43/00; C07F9/6512; C07H19/04; C07H19/044; C07H19/06; C07H19/073; C07H19/10; C07H19/20; C12N5/00; C12N5/18; C12Q1/02; C12Q1/25; A61K31/664; A61K31/7042; A61K45/00; A61K47/48; A61P35/00; A61P43/00; C07F9/00; C07H19/00; C12N5/00; C12N5/18; C12Q1/02; C12Q1/25; (IPC1-7): A61K31/664; A61K31/7072; A61K45/00; A61P35/00; A61P43/00; C07H19/04; C07H19/044; C07H19/06; C12N5/00; C12Q1/02; C12Q1/25

- European: A61K47/48H4; A61K47/48H4S; A61K47/48H4S4; A61K47/48R6F; C07F9/6512G; C07H19/06E; C07H19/10E; C07H19/20; Y01N2/00

Application number: JP20000528661T 19990122

Priority number(s): US19980072264P 19980123; US19980076950P 19980305; US19980108634P 19981116; WO1999US01332 19990122

Also published as:

WO9937753 (A1)
US2001034440 (A1)
US7601703 (B2)
US6339151 (B1)
US6245750 (B1)

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Abstract not available for JP 2002500880 (T)

Abstract of corresponding document: **WO 9937753 (A1)**

This invention provides a method for identifying potential therapeutic agents by contacting a target cell with a candidate therapeutic agent which is a selective substrate for an endogenous, intracellular enzyme in the cell which is enhanced in its expression as a result of selection by biologic or chemotherapy. This invention also provides methods and examples of molecules for selectively killing a pathological cell by contacting the cell with a prodrug that is a selective substrate for an endogenous, intracellular enzyme. The prodrug is subsequently converted to a cellular toxin. Further provided by this invention is a method for treating a pathology characterized by pathological, hyperproliferative cells in a subject by administering to the subject a prodrug that is a selective substrate for an endogenous, overexpressed, intracellular enzyme, and converted by the enzyme to a cellular toxin in the hyperproliferative cell.

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